

## Message Text

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71

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 IGA-02 L-03 H-02

SP-02 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

/087 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:JKBISHOP:MN

APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH

AFR/CWR:FGILBERT

EB/IFD/OIA: TBRODERICK

AF/EP:RBDUNCAN

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O R 150302Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EINV, DM, PFOR

SUBJECT: COTONOU BRIDGE/DAM

REFS: (A) COTONOU 0040; (B) COTONOU 0034; (C) STATE 008495;  
(D) ABIDJAN 00218

ABIDJAN FOR REDSO

1. BENINESE COUNSELOR SOGLO TELEPHONED AF/W JANUARY 14 TO  
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REPORT SANDERS AND THOMAS REPRESENTATIVE HAS INFORMED

BENIN EMBASSY THAT ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM AID S&T HAD SUSPENDED ALL ACTIVITY ON BRIDGE/DAM PROJECT. SOGLO SAID S&T REPRESENTATIVE HAD STATED AID INSTRUCTIONS PROMPTED BY BENIN GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE COMPENSATE NATIONALIZED US INVESTORS.

2. DEPTOFF TOLD SOGLO THAT AS HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN INFORMED PREVIOUSLY FAILURE OF BENIN GOVERNMENT TO MAKE ANY PROGRESS TOWARD COMPENSATION OF NATIONALIZED INVESTORS WOULD LEAD TO EXCLUSION FROM GSP BENEFITS AND COULD LEAD TO TERMINATION OF US ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH HICKENLOOPER AMENDMENT PROVISIONS. DEPTOFF EXPLAINED THAT USG LAWYERS CURRENTLY EXAMINING APPLICABILITY OF HICKENLOOPER AMENDMENT IN VIEW ABSENCE

ANY MOVEMENT TOWARD DISCUSSION OF COMPENSATION. DEPTOFF NOTED THAT IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE TO PROCEED FURTHER TOWARD IMPLEMENTATION OF BRIDGE/DAM PROJECT.

3. SOGLO PROFESSED INABILITY TO UNDERSTAND WHY USG CONTINUED TO FEEL HIS GOVERNMENT UNRESPONSIVE ON COMPENSATION, STATING THAT GOVERNMENT HAD DECLARED THAT INVESTORS WOULD BE COMPENSATED. DEPTOFF SAID INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE FOR EXAMINING NATIONALIZATION CASES COULD ONLY ACT ON BASIS OF RECORD WHICH SHOWED THAT DESPITE REPEATED INQUIRIES AND URGING BY U.S. OFFICIALS IN COTONOU AND WASHINGTON THERE HAS BEEN ABSOLUTELY NO PROGRESS TOWARD COMPENSATION IN OVER A YEAR. DEPTOFF ADDED THAT PROCESS HAD BEEN VERY FRUSTRATING FOR U.S. EMBASSY OFFICERS WHO CONSTANTLY FOUND BENIN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO SHOULD BE AWARE OF PROBLEM PLEADING THAT THEY WERE UNINFORMED AND THEIR PROMISES TO LOOK INTO THE SITUATION NEVER FOLLOWED BY VISIBLE ACTION. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMPENSATION, NATIONALIZATION, BRIDGES (STRUCTURES), CONTRACTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE010221  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JKBISHOP:MN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760014-0939  
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**Line Count:** 95  
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**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
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**Reference:** 76 COTONOU 40, 76 COTONOU 34, 76 STATE 8495  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COTONOU BRIDGE/DAM  
**TAGS:** EAID, EINV, PFOR, DM  
**To:** COTONOU ABIDJAN  
**Type:** TE  
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